

IN THE CLAIMS:

1. (Canceled)

2. (Currently Amended) An engineered carbonaceous material comprising a mixture of expanded graphite and one or more graphite materials selected from the group consisting of natural flake graphite, natural vein graphite, amorphous graphite, and synthetic graphite wherein the mixture comprises between 0.1 and 99.9 wt.% expanded graphite.

3-21. (Canceled)

22. (Previously Presented) A primary alkaline battery, comprising:

a cathode comprising manganese dioxide and carbon particles, the carbon particles including between 25% and 75% non-expanded graphite particles by weight and between 25% and 75% expanded graphite particles by weight;

an anode;

a separator; and

an alkaline electrolyte.

23-25 (Canceled)

26. (Previously Presented) A cathode for a battery, comprising manganese dioxide and carbon particles, the carbon particles including between 25% and 75% non-expanded graphite by weight and between 25% and 75% expanded graphite by weight.